Industrial Disputes Act

513. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reviewing the definition of "industry" contained in the Industrial Disputes Act in the light of the recent observations of a division bench of the Supreme Court as reported in the Times of India dated the 13th March, 1998;

(b) if so, the present status of the review; and

(c) the organisations/various interests who have been associated with the review.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The Division Bench of the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal Nos. 1720 and 1721 of 1990 in respect of Coir Board Ernakulam, Cochin & Anr. *Vs.* Indira Devi P.S. & Others has decided on 4.3.98 that the matter regarding definition of "Industry" under the I.D. Act be placed before the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India to consider whether a larger bench should be constituted to re-consider the decision of that court in Bangalore Water Supply and Severage Board etc. *Vs.* A. Rajappa and others.

Operation of Additional Employment in the Next Decade

514. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Agenda for Governance of Government promises the creation of 10 million additional employment every year in the next one decade;

(b) if so, the details, sector-wise, of the employment generation programme worked out, if any; and

(c) the strategy evolved for the programme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Proposal for New E.S.I. Hospitals in Orissa

515. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for opening of some new E.S.I. Hospitals in Orissa are pending since long;

(b) whether Government had also a proposal to upgrade some E.S.I. hospitals in that State; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to implement those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, except in Delhi and Noida, the responsibility for administration of medical care vests in State Governments/Union Territory-Administrations. However, the expenditure on ESI medical care is shared between the ESIC and State Governments/ Union Territories in the ratio of 7:1. The ESI hospitals/dispensaries are equipped and staffed as per the norms prescribed by the ESI Corporation. In order to improve medical care for the insured persons the ESI Corporation has planned to upgrade and modernise the ESI hospitals including those in Orissa by providing facilities of ultrasonography, auto analyser, resuscitation equipments, Cardiac monitor, pulse-Oxymeter, dental and blood bank units etc. Proposals in this regard will be considered by the ESIC as and when the same is recommended by the State Government.

Impact of Poverty on Child Labour

516. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that extreme poverty forces parents to send their children as labour;

(b) whether Government propose to give monthly dole to parents of child labour so that they do not sent their child to work; and

(c) if so, the amount per month to be given and the total money to be spent per year on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Child Labour is a socio-economic problem. Government has initiated a massive multi pronged strategy to address the problem. A National Policy on Child Labour was announced by the Government in 1987 which